

FACT SHEET



CALIFORNIA'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION LEADERSHIP POLICY

Background

In his Environmental Action Plan, Governor Schwarzenegger set forth his Administration's goal to make California a leader in efforts to reduce global warming. Accordingly, June 1, 2005, the Governor signed an Executive Order which established statewide greenhouse gas emission targets and directed the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to lead the effort to achieve the targets.

Setting Targets and Taking Action

The greenhouse gas emission targets established by Governor Schwarzenegger are ambitious yet achievable.

By 2010, Reduce to 2000 Emission Levels*

By 2020, Reduce to 1990 Emission Levels**

By 2050, Reduce to 80% Below 1990 Levels

* Equals 59 Million Tons Emission Reductions,
11% Below Business as Usual

** Equals 145 Million Tons Emission Reductions,
25% Below Business as Usual

Implementing strategies to meet the targets will be the responsibility of a Climate Action Team which was established by the Governor. The Team is led by the Secretary of CalEPA and is comprised of high-level representatives from key state agencies. The Team will ensure that the targets are met and will report to the Governor and Legislature in January 2006 and bi-annually thereafter.

The Governor's actions continue California's leadership in implementing the most effective building and appliance efficiency standards in the world, the Renewable Portfolio Standard for energy resources, and the motor vehicle greenhouse gas emission standards.

California's scientists have led the scientific community in assessing the potential damages and costs to California associated with climate change. The Governor has launched a "scenario planning" effort. This effort will assess the environmental and economic impacts of climate change on California and consider options to adapt to these impacts.

Companies Take Action

Some companies with locations in California have voluntarily reduced their greenhouse gas emissions by well over 50 percent with cost savings in the billions of dollars. These actions as well as California companies' history of demonstrating technological innovation and leadership puts them in a position to benefit from the world market for greenhouse gas emission reduction technologies. That market is estimated to be over \$180 billion.